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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Atsushi MARUGAME

Appln. No. 10/026,687

Group Art Unit: 2851

Confirmation No.: 9339

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: SUBJECT AREA EXTRACTING METHOD AND IMAGE PICK UP APPARATUS
USING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PTO-1449
FEB 20 2002
1001

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2-304680, published December 18, 1990.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 6-268929, published September 22, 1994.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-154777, published June 16, 1995.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-243387, published September 11, 1998.

Atsushi MARUGAME
10/026,687
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant states that the above references are discussed within the specification beginning at page 1, lines 14, 15 and 16.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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(use as many sheets as necessary) FEB 20 2002

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Filing Date	December 27, 2001
First Named Inventor	Atsushi MARUGAME
Art Unit	2851
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q67898

Sheet

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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.